Funds for construction of Polyster X-ray Project

2010. SHRI S. MUTHUMANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the construction of new Polyster X-ray project, working capital to the tune of over Rs. 70 crores has been diverted from the Hindustan Photo Films, Nilgiri District, Tamil Nadu:

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have offered 51 per cent shares to Du-pont of the new Polyster X-ray project ;

(c) whether any demand has been received from the Hindustan Photo Films, Nilgiri District, to supply the Silver at the rate prevailing in the international Market; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) As per the assessment of Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Limited (HPF) a sum of about Rs. 45 crores has been diverted to the new polyester plant from the working capital of the existing plant.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) HPF has requested for duty free import of silver.

Modernisation of Leather Industry

2011. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Leather Industry has been asked to! induct bio-technology and [innovative leather processing techniques for a modernisation plant, designed to boost leather exports up to Rs. 10,000 crores by 2000 A.D., as repored in the Economic Times, New Delhi dated the 1st December, 1993;

(b) whether the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Madras and the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TlFAC), New Delhi, have called upon the Industry to reduce process costs by upgrading leather quality, turning tannery waste into wealth and selecting technology for optimum use of chemicals, energy and water used in leather processing;

(c) if so, what are the other details/ outlines suggested by' CLRI-TIFAC for the entire range of Indian leather industry;

(d) what is Governments reaction therefor; and

(e) what steps have been taken to boost leather exports during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) At a recently concluded workshop jointly organised by the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) and Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) various technology aspects relating to structure of the industry, materials availability, technology support, marketing and exports, human resource development etc. were covered. Induction of biotechnology in the process of modernisation of leather industry was emphasised. An enzyme has recently been developed at Central Leather Research Institute, Madras for easy unhairing of raw hides and skins, totally avoiding use of polluting chemicals. It may take two-three year's time before the production of this enzyme is upscaled and made available to the industry. The need for optimisation in the use of chemicals, energy and water in leather processing was also stressed.

(c) The detailed results of this study are expected to be released to ;the Indian leather industry shortly.